

## Gnoll Primary School



11<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

## Newsletter

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are half way through another school year at Gnoll Primary. There have been some wonderful experiences offered to both our families and children throughout the year so far. The staff have been very proactive in developing our curriculum in preparation for the changes in 2022. I was very pleased with the response during our parent sharing sessions and I hope you found them worthwhile. If you can support the topics then please let your child's teacher know.

St David's Day and Welsh week was held the week before half term and lots of activities took place to celebrate being Welsh and the Welsh language. The children looked wonderful in their traditional Welsh costumes and the school St David's Day was full of Welsh activities and events. Thank you for all that contributed in making the week worthwhile.

World Book Day on 7th March was another wonderful day with children dressed as their favourite storybook characters. Thank you once again for your support. This week we are hosting story sessions with each class and parents. Hope you can make it.

The next event is For Red Nose Day on 15<sup>th</sup> March. The children can wear something Red to help celebrate the event. Parents' are asked for a donation which will be sent to Red Nose Day. For our Fundraising Event this year we are supporting NSPCC, this will take place on Thursday 28th March. I appreciate that we have a number of events in March; however, this is important to our children who are very aware on how these activities support other children and families. Please support where you can.



Before half term, we had a visit from Environmental Health to inspect our kitchen. We were given a '5' rating, which we are extremely happy about. I would like to thank Jo and her staff for all their hard work.

### ***Dates for the diary:***

Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> March	HALF TERM
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Class Photographs
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Share a story afternoon for Reception and Year 1 pupils.
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> March – Thur 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Evenings
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> - 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Year 3 Miss Mogford's Class, Swimming Week
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Year ½ Mrs Harcombe's Class Assembly
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Year ¾ Miss Down's Class, Swimming Week
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents Meeting with Headteacher (Foundation Phase)
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Coffee and a Bacon Butty with the Headteacher Foundation Phase Parents
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Coffee and a Bacon Butty with the Headteacher Key Stage 2 Parents
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	NSPCC Sponsored Event (Whole School)
	NSPCC Parent Workshop on Internet Safety (2pm)
12 <sup>th</sup> April, 2019	Last day of Spring Term.
29 <sup>th</sup> April, 2019	Start of the Summer Term (Not an Inset Day)

*\*NB dates will be added to this list as and when they are organised.*

**National Test week at Gnoll**

National Reading and Mathematics test (Years 2-6) between the 7th and 14th of May every pupil within Year 2—6 will complete the National Reading, Procedural and Reasoning Mathematics tests. Please make every effort for your child to be in school between these days. If you would like to discuss the tests please contact your class teacher.

**Attendance Update**

Our attendance target, set by the Local Authority is 95%; our attendance is currently 93.7%. Thank you for your continued support in achieving this. Please note all holidays in term time are marked as absent and any requests need to be made to myself in writing in advance, using a form you can collect from the office. If your child cannot attend school for any reason, it is very important you contact the office as soon as possible in the morning so we can note our records. Please keep us updated if you or any family members on our system change phone numbers.

**After School Clubs and Activities for this term**

Day	Dinnertime Clubs	After School Clubs
Monday	School Council Meetings	
Tuesday	Netball Club Sports Ambassadors Recorders/Road Safety	Dance & Glee Club (Y2 upwards)
Wednesday	Digital Leaders	Girls Football (Yr 3,4,5,6) Code IT (KS2) Arts & Crafts (FPh)
Thursday	ECO Committee Ciw Cymraeg	
Friday		

**Coffee and a bacon sandwich with the Headteacher!**

I am keen to meet with you and discuss some important matters. Our Pupil Voice is strong here at Gnoll but I feel we could develop further our communication forums. You as parents are a partnership that I value and I know that with your support we can do great things with/for your children. As a result, I would like to welcome you for a coffee and a bacon sandwich session here at school. If you can make the sessions could you let us know so that we can cater for the number attending. The sessions will be at 9am (after you drop off your child/children) and will last for an hour. They are pencilled in for:

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Foundation Phase Parents**  
**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Key Stage Two Parents**

**School Badge and Mission Statement:**

In the past year we have been looking to modernise our school badge and mission statement. The school council have been very busy on collating ideas and feelings and have been designing a new badge. No one at school could remember why we had Neath Castle as our logo. This does not represent our school and more importantly our beliefs at school. If you have information on this matter please contact the school.



Possible New badge



Current Badge

The children felt that we needed to have the school name in welsh, they weren't sure as to what colour they would have for the outside ring. They chose the person in the middle as the trunk of the tree as it represented growth and wanted the other two figures to touch the centre figure so that it would then represent us as one community, supporting one another. As you can see the children have put in a great deal of effort and thought into this design. What do you think?

*Rhys Harris*

Headteacher